DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 447 564 EA 030 693

TITLE	Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration Program: Mid-Continent Regional Educational Laboratory CSRD Model Developers Activity and Plan. Revised.
INSTITUTION	Mid-Continent Regional Educational Lab., Aurora, CO.
SPONS AGENCY	Office of Educational Research and Improvement (ED), Washington, DC.
PUB DATE	2000-03-23
NOTE	9p.
PUB TYPE	Reports - Descriptive (141)
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	*Change Strategies; Comprehensive Programs; Educational Administration; *Educational Change; *Educational Improvement; Elementary Secondary Education; Models; *School Restructuring
IDENTIFIERS	*Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration Program

ABSTRACT

This paper provides data on the Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration (CSRD) program in the mid-continent region. Started in 1998 and part of the Mid-Continent Research for Education and Learning and Model Developers Plan, the CSRD program aims to increase student achievement by assisting schools across the country to implement successful, comprehensive school reforms. Seventeen comprehensive school reform models were identified as examples of strategies a school might adopt. To date, all states in the Mid-Continental Regional Educational Laboratory's central region (Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming) have completed initial rounds of CSRD funding, with South Dakota and Missouri completing second and third rounds. Thirty-two school-reform models are being implemented in 92 sites. Some of the challenges identified by model developers are the isolation felt by schools in a district where no other schools are engaged in reform efforts and the lack of support among some teachers who do not recognize the stages of implementation of a new initiative, especially the inevitable implementation dip. Four tables present data on the number of different program models being implemented in each state, the distribution of models across states, model developers in the McREL region not under CSRD, and numbers of alternative models. (RJM)

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COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL REFORM DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

MID-CONTINENT REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL LABORATORY

CSRD MODEL DEVELOPERS ACTIVITY AND PLAN

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(Revised March 23, 2000)

EA 030 093

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Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration Program
Mid-continental Regional Educational Laboratory
CSRD MODEL DEVELOPERS ACTIVITY AND PLAN

The Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning and Model Developers Plan is a living document. It is periodically updated to reflect new CSRD LEA funding and activity. Its primary purpose is to enable McREL staff to:

- track the funding and progress of CSRD LEA funded sites;
- identify and determine the distribution of models in use in the region; and
- develop collaborative strategies and establish communication links with the region's model developers.

McREL Regional Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration Program

The Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration (CSRD) program, begun in 1998, aims to increase student achievement by assisting schools across the country to implement successful, comprehensive school reforms. Seventeen specific Comprehensive School Reform models were identified in the legislation as examples of strategies a school might adopt. This did not preclude LEAs from adopting other models or developing their own. To date, all states in McREL's central region (Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming) have completed initial rounds of CSRD funding with two states (South Dakota and Missouri) completing second and third rounds. Presently, thirty-two different school reform models are being implemented in ninety-two sites in the Central Region. Nine of the thirty-two models are identified as *alternative models.* The *alternative models* are models not listed in Legislation or either NWREL's *Catalogue of School Reform Models* (NWREL, 1998), or the AIR's *An Educator's Guide to Schoolwide Reform* (Educational Research Service, 1999). Eighteen of the ninety-two sites selected *alternative models.* McREL is finalizing a study of the *alternative models* in the central region. This study will examine the CSRD sites that selected *alternative models* and their approach to comprehensive school reform. It is anticipated that the findings will help McREL tailor specific technical assistance for these sites.

McREL will continue to convene the CSRD SEA Network Forums as an avenue to discuss issues relative to technical assistance needs and CSRD model implementation and to strengthen communication and collaborative links with model developers. Some of the challenges identified by the model developers from previous SEA Network Forums are:

- Some schools feel a sense of isolation from being in a district where no other schools are engaged in reform efforts
- Some teachers do not recognize the stages of implementation of a new initiative, especially the implementation dip which effects some teachers negatively
- Educators tend to want to choose one component to implement rather than all of the necessary component for success
- Some school improvement plans incorporate too many goals in their school improvement plans which effect successful implementation of the model

McREL is currently planning to convene the next CSRD SEA Network Forum, July 2000. It is anticipated that a wide representation of model developers from the central region will participate in this event.

Tables 1 and 2 summarize CSR activity in the Central Region by state and model respectively. In addition, Table 3 summarizes models in use across the region, but not under the CSRD Initiative. The last table, Table 4 identifies selected alternative models in the central region.

Table 1
McREL Region Model Developers under the
Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration Program

Model	Number
Colorado LEA Models	
California Early Literacy Learning (CELL)	1
Coalition of Essential Schools	2
Core Knowledge	1
Expeditionary Learning Outward Bound	3
First Steps	1
Learning Network	1
Learning Network Literacy Learning	2
Literacy Learning Coalition	1
Multiple Models	1
Nexus Cluster Model	1
Success for All	1
Success for All/Roots and Wings	3
Total LEA Sites Funded	18
Kansas LEA Models	
Basic School	1
First Things First	2
Learning Network Literacy Learning	1
Light Span	1
Math Wings	1
Roots and Wings	1
Success for All	9
Total LEA Sites Funded	16

Table 1 (continued)
McREL Region Model Developers under the
Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration Program

Model	Number
Missouri LEA Models	
Accelerated Schools	7
Audrey Cohen Purpose Centered Education	1
Basic School	2
Carbo Reading Styles	3
Child Development Project	1
Coalition of Essential Schools	6
Different Ways of Knowing	1
Expeditionary Learning	1
Four Blocks Framework	1
Instruction and Learning Profile	1
Project Construct	2
Renaissance	3
Success for All	7
Success for All/Roots and Wings	1
Turning Points	1
Total LEA Sites Funded	38
Nebraska LEA Models	
Co-NECT	3
Different Ways of Knowing	1
High Scope	1
Outward Bound	1
Success for All	2
Total LEA Sites Funded	8
North Dakota LEA Models	
Carbo Reading Styles	2
Community for Learning	1
Success for All	1
Total LEA Sites Funded	4
South Dakota Models	
Co-NFCT	1
Success for All	1
Total LEA Sites Funded	2

Table 1 (continued)
McREL Region Model Developers under the
Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration Program

Model	Number
Wyoming Models	
California Early Literacy Learning (CELL)	1
Hosts	1
Micro Society	1
Renaissance	1
Success for All	1
Wyoming Early Literacy Learning, Reading, Recovery	1
Total LEA Sites Funded	6

Table 2
Distribution of CSR Models Across States

Models	CO	KS	MO	NE	ND	SD	WY
Accelerated Schools			7				
Audrey Cohen 'Purpose Centered Education'			1				
Basic School		1	2				
California Early Literacy Learning (CELL)	1						1
Carbo Reading Styles			3		2		
Child Development Project			1				
Coalition of Essential Schools	2		6				
Community for Learning					1		
Co-NECT				3		1	
Core Knowledge	1						
Different Ways of Knowing			1	1			
Expeditionary Learning Outward Bound	3		1	1			
First Steps	1						
First Things First		2					
Four Blocks Framework			1				
High Scope				1			
Hosts							1
Instruction and Learning Profile			1				
Learning Network Literacy Learning	3	1					
Light Span		1					
Literacy Learning Coalition	1						
Math Wings		1					
Micro Society							1
Multiple Models	1						
Nexus Cluster Model	1						
Project Construct			2				
Renaissance			3				1
Roots and Wings		1					
Success for All	1	9	7	2	1	1	1
Success for All/Roots and Wings	3		1				
Turning Points			1				
Wyoming Early Literacy Learning, Reading, Recovery							1
Totals	**18**	**16**	**38**	**8**	**4**	**2**	**6**

Table 3
Model Developers in the McREL Region Not Under CSRD

State	Current Developers	Developers Targeting/ Expanding - 1999-2000
Colorado	Accelerated Schools Project America's Choice School Design Edison Project Foxfire Montessori National Paideia Center School Development Program	ATLAS Communities National Paideia Center Purpose-Centered Education (Audrey Cohen College) Urban Learning Centers
Kansas	Coalition of Essential Schools Core Knowledge Edison Project High Schools That Work Onward to Excellence School Development Program	Onward to Excellence
Missouri	America's Choice School Design Core Knowledge Montessori School Development Program	Modern Red Schoolhouse
North Dakota	None	None
South Dakota	None	None
Wyoming	Core Knowledge	None

Table 4
Selected Alternative Models

Alternative Model	Number of Sites with Model
California Early Literacy Learning	2
The Learning Network	4
Literacy Learning Coalition	1
Nexus Cluster Model	1
First Things First	2
Project Construct	2
The Instruction and Learning Profile	1
Renaissance Program	4
Collaborative Literacy Intervention/First Steps	1
Total Sites	18